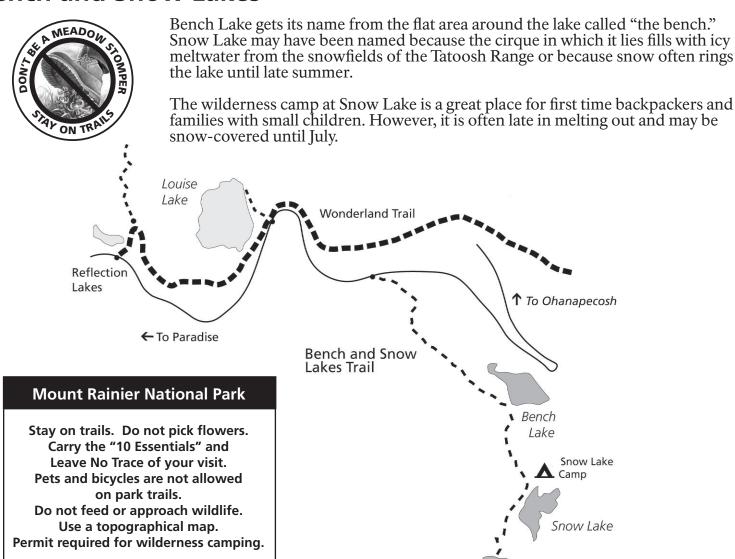
Mount Rainier National Park

National Park Service
U.S. Department of the Interior



Bench and Snow Lakes



Trai	 ~~~	KIK	 0 M

Round-trip Distance: 2.5 miles (4 km) Elevation Gain: 700 feet (213 m) Hiking Time Round-trip: 2 hours Wilderness Camp: Snow Lake Difficulty Level: Moderate

The trailhead is 1.5 miles (2.4 km) east of the Reflection Lakes parking area. The trail

itself follows a succession of gradual ups and downs as it crosses a series of low ridges. You will reach Bench Lake after .7 mile (1.1 km). Continue another .5 mile (.8 km) to reach Snow Lake.

Most years these lakes do not melt out until late July, so the trail can be muddy.

Along the Trail

In mid-summer, this area explodes with a variety of wildflowers and an abundance of beargrass. In the fall, mountain ash and huckleberries color the scene. Quite visible is a silver forest of trees which remain from

a past fire. Expect good views of Mount Rainier if the weather is clear. This is also one of the best places in the park to see hummingbirds.